

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

MARK SCHEME for the October/November 2014 series

0493 ISLAMIYAT

0493/12

Paper 1, maximum raw mark 50

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Candidates must attempt **Question 1, Question 2** and **two** other questions.

1 Choose any two of the following passages from the Qur'an, and:

(a) briefly describe the main theme(s) in each passage [4]

(b) briefly explain the importance of these themes in a Muslim's life today. [4]

In order to give a mark for AO1 you will have to read both part (a) answers, and similarly in order to give a mark for AO2 you will have to read both part (b) answers.

You should give only two marks, one for both part (a) answers, and one for both part (b) answers.

When marking this question, you may have to read the answers a number of times.

(i) Sura 41.37

37. Among His signs are the night and the day, and the sun and the moon. Adore not the sun and the moon, but adore Allah, who created them, if it is Him you wish to serve.

(ii) Sura 1

1. In the name of Allah, most gracious, most merciful. 2. Praise be to Allah, the cherisher and sustainer of the worlds; 3. Most gracious, most merciful; 4. Master of the day of judgement. 5. You we worship, and your aid we seek. 6. Show us the straight way, 7. The way of those to whom You have given your grace, not those who earn your anger, nor those who go astray.

(iii) Sura 99

1. When the earth is shaken to her utmost convulsion, 2. And the earth throws up her burdens, 3. And man cries out: 'What is the matter with her?', 4. On that day will she declare her tidings: 5. For that your Lord will have given her inspiration. 6. On that day will men proceed in companies sorted out, to be shown their deeds. 7. Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good see it! 8. And anyone who has done an atom's weight of evil shall see it.

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(a) What are the main themes?

(i) Sura 41.37

God as Creator: God creates and controls everything.

God's signs: Order of the sun and the moon are God's signs for humankind. They are signs of His power.

Tawhid/Lord of mankind: Only He should be worshipped; no-one is equal to Him. A negation of paganism; the sun and moon are not to be worshipped.

(ii) Sura 1

Lord of creation: It is God who presides over judgement and controls the worlds.

Guidance: God gives guidance to those who ask. This is used as a prayer.

Mercy: He is the one to ask for forgiveness, and it is He who grants forgiveness to His humble servants.

Tawhid: God as one, Master of all creation. Only He is deserving of worship.

(iii) Sura 99

God's Power: The earth is shaken, destroying what He created; He has the power to give life/death.

Last Day: Everything will be destroyed. God gives the earth a voice to say what has been done on her.

Responsibility: People will be responsible for their actions on earth and given their accounts.

Justice: God will give people their accounts, which will take them to Heaven/Hell.

The above answers are not the only answers that could be presented. Candidates should be allowed to develop/show other relevant themes of the passage. The highest level should be kept for well written answers offering a variety of themes.

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(b) The importance of these themes.

(i) Sura 41.37

The importance is that it creates a strong link with God so Muslims do not look up to anything/anyone else, famous people, money, etc., and they worship only Him. Stops them from committing shirk.

God's signs invite Muslims to observe their environment. Creates awe and wonder to help get closer to Him.

Reminds humankind that He is the creator of all things.

(ii) Sura 1

This is recited in every prayer. 'No prayer is accepted without Fatiha'.

It is a conversation with God and He is the Creator, and God is replying to each verse.

Through it, humans communicate with God.

Muslims use this to ask for guidance (given in the Qur'an and sunna), mercy and help, even outside the prayer.

Submitting to God brings humbleness into lives, and because Muslims are accountable to God they pray to be guided on the straight path.

(iii) Sura 99

The Last Day creates a fear of accountability, reminding Muslims to stay on the straight path.

Good deeds will be rewarded, encouraging Muslims to do good at all times, e.g. praying, being honest and helping others. It keeps them away from displeasurable things like lying, cheating, gossiping, not fasting etc.

It helps Muslims understand the temporary nature of the world, which stops them being distracted by worldly things, fashion or money, etc.

Muslims feel comforted by God's justice that no good deed will go unnoticed or bad deed unpunished.

These are not the only points candidates can mention, and personalising the passages to their own or Muslims' lives, or giving thoughtful answers with examples, could take them higher up the levels.

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- 2 (a) Write about the methods used to compile the Qur'an into a book after the death of the Prophet. [10]

Candidates should give some details about the different stages of compilation, and how it was then brought together into a book.

As the Qur'an was revealed, the companions would write verses they heard from the Prophet onto pieces of animal skin and parts of bone, but mainly the Qur'an was committed to memory.

After the battle of Yamamah, it was suggested by 'Umar to Abu Bakr that all the verses be collected. At first Abu Bakr was hesitant to do something the Prophet had not done, but then asked the companion Zaid ibn Thabit to collect the various parts. Zaid was meticulous in his approach to collecting and compiling the verses. Details of this should be given. The final version consisted of loose sheets called the *suhuf*.

The collected parts stayed in the possession of Abu Bakr. When he died, 'Umar kept them, and after his death they remained with 'Umar's daughter, Hafsa. It was this collection that was used by the Caliph 'Uthman to compile them into one book which was sent around the various parts of the expanding Muslim world. Candidates should relate this story with details of what happened during 'Uthman's time for him to order the distribution of the Qur'an.

- (b) Why is understanding the teachings of the Qur'an important to Muslims? [4]

The Qur'an has always been the foundation for telling Muslims how they live their lives, and it was put into practice by the Prophet. Although the Prophet is not here as an example, the Qur'an can still be used by Muslims to live their lives. It gives them a framework for how to live their lives instead of having to look to others.

By reading the Qur'an and trying to learn the meaning, Muslims can understand what God wants from them. Learning Arabic will help Muslims to understand the Qur'an in its own language. By taking one lesson from the Qur'an and applying it in their life, they can try to take on board the real meaning.

Understanding the teachings helps their faith become real to them. It allows them to follow God's guidance for them, which in turn helps them to become closer to God.

It is used as a source of Law so people need to understand its teachings to be able to make laws from it.

Candidates can use their own examples but must give reasons for them.

Part (a) tests AO1, and part (b) tests AO2.

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- 3 (a) **Write about the Prophet’s activities in spreading Islam outside Makka, before the migration to Madina.** [10]

The two main events related to this are the visit to Ta’if and the Pledges of Aqaba. Candidates should write about both events to reach higher levels.

As the number of converts to Islam was not increasing, and due to the persecution by the Quraysh, the Prophet turned his attention to communities outside Makka. He first went to Ta’if, where he called the people to Islam for ten days. The people of the city chased the Prophet and Zaid bin Harith out, pelting them with stones. Blood flowed down his legs and Zaid was injured too. They took refuge in an orchard. God sent the Angel Jibril, with the angel of the mountain, to crush the town and its inhabitants with the mountains surrounding it, with the Prophet’s permission. The Prophet instead prayed for them that they would become Muslim.

The Prophet then focused on preaching to pilgrims coming to Makka for the pilgrimage. In the eleventh year of prophethood, six men from Yathrib listened to the Prophet’s message. They accepted Islam and went back to Yathrib and preached the message of Islam. The following year, twelve men came to offer their allegiance to the Prophet. They pledged to worship one God, not steal or commit adultery, nor kill their children. The Prophet sent Musab bin ‘Umair to teach the people of Yathrib.

In the following year, over 70 pilgrims came to Makka from Yathrib and swore allegiance to the Prophet. In this pledge they agreed to listen and obey the Prophet, to spend when they had lots and when they had less, to enjoin good and forbid evil, to fear no one, and to defend the Prophet.

After this, the Prophet gave the Muslims permission to start migrating to Madina.

- (b) **Choose one quality shown by the Prophet in these activities and explain how Muslims today can learn from it.** [4]

Candidates could, for example, write about the forgiveness shown by the Prophet. He had an opportunity to have revenge on those who had harmed him, but instead he chose to pray for them. Muslims can learn that prayer can be more powerful than retaliation. That it is not necessary to fight violence with violence. In difficult circumstances, such as oppression, or when people are harming you, forgiveness can be a powerful tool. Muslims should learn to be more forgiving in all circumstances, for example, if someone has stolen from them or has called them names.

Candidates can choose to write about other qualities, but they need to justify their answer with an example.

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4 (a) Outline the Prophet’s experiences in the caves of Hira and Thawr. [10]

Candidates have to write about both caves, and the answers should generally be of equal volume.

Cave Hira is where the Prophet received the first revelation, when he was 40. He had been spending longer periods of time there. One night, an angel appeared in the form of a man and said “Iqra” (read/recite). The Prophet replied, I cannot recite. This happened three times. The third time, the Angel Jibril squeezed the Prophet and recited the words of surah Alaq, verses 1-5. The Prophet felt the words were imprinted on his heart. He ran out of the cave and could see the Angel on the horizon. He ran home and asked his wife to cover him and narrated what had happened.

Cave Thawr is where the Prophet hid with his companion Abu Bakr when they left Makka on the migration to Madina. They were followed by men hired by the Quraysh to kill the Prophet. They stayed in the cave for three days. Abu Bakr entered to clear the cave for the Prophet; while the Prophet slept on his lap, something stung Abu Bakr but he did not cry out. A spider wove its web at the entrance, and birds made a nest, so when the Quraysh got to the cave they did not go in. Abu Bakr was scared and the Prophet reassured him that God was with them (9.40). After three days they left the cave for Madina. Abu Bakr’s son would come to give them news of Makka and his daughter brought them food for their journey.

Candidates should expand on these details to gain the highest level.

(b) In what respects were the Prophet’s experiences in the cave of Thawr important for his prophethood? [4]

The events in the cave of Thawr were important to the Prophet because they gave him the reassurance that God was looking after him; as the web that was spun in the cave saved his life, so Islam was spread.

It also confirmed the loyalty of Abu Bakr to the Prophet, as Abu Bakr was afraid but did not give himself or the Prophet away to the Quraysh.

These are not the only valid answers, and candidates should be credited where they give reasons for their answer.

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- 5 (a) Give an account of the lives of Abu Sufyan and Khalid bin Walid during the time of the Prophet. [10]

Abu Sufyan: he was a prominent and powerful figure among the Quraysh, and a staunch opponent of the Prophet and the Muslims. It was his caravan returning from Syria that was the basis for the Battle of Badr, and candidates should give details of his involvement in this event. After the loss at Badr, revenge was sought and Abu Sufyan led the Quraysh army to Uhud. His wife Hind also went seeking revenge for the death of her father. After Uhud, Abu Sufyan vowed to fight again and the next time they met was at the Battle of the Trench. Candidates could also talk about the breaking of the treaty of Hudaibiya, Abu Sufyan's attempts to restore the treaty, his subsequent conversion when the Prophet marched towards Makka, and the honour the Prophet gave him despite him being a fierce opponent for many years. At Ta'if, Abu Sufyan lost an eye, and at Yarmouk he lost the other; he died aged 90 in Madina.

Khalid bin Walid: He was from a family who opposed the Prophet in Makka, and although he did not take part in the Battle of Badr, he played a vital role in the Battle of Uhud against the Muslims, turning the Muslim victory to defeat. Candidates should give details of his role. He converted to Islam after the Treaty of Hudaibiya. In 629, Khalid set out for Madina. On the way he met 'Amr ibn al-'As and 'Uthman ibn Talha, who were also going to Madina to convert to Islam.

After conversion he took part in the Battle of Mu'ta. It was the first battle between the Romans and the Muslims. He reported that the fighting was so intense that he used nine swords which broke in the battle. Khalid took over after Zayd ibn Haritha, then Ja'far ibn Abi Talib, then Abdullah ibn Rawaha were killed. It was because of him that the Muslims returned safely.

He subsequently took part in the Conquest of Makka, Battle of Hunain and the Battle of Tabuk. Candidates can give details of these events. He was at the farewell pilgrimage of the Prophet, and is said to have collected three hairs from the Prophet there, which gave him victory in his battles. He died in 642 in Syria.

- (b) In your opinion, can Muslims today learn anything from Abu Sufyan's involvement with the Prophet? [4]

Muslims can learn that no matter how fierce a person is against Islam, they can change and become friends of Islam. Therefore Muslims should not treat non-Muslims in a bad way, as they could be part of their community in the future. The example of the Prophet is to treat people well no matter how they treat you.

Muslims can also learn that a new Muslim's sins are wiped clean, so their past should not be held against them. So Muslims now should not look down on new Muslims, no matter what their background.

These are just some examples; candidates can offer other answers but should give details of what the lessons mean.